

providing a fiber optic cable having a proximal end and a delivery end;

E/      directing the beam into [one end of a] the proximal end of the fiber optic cable[, with the other end of the fiber optic cable defining the delivery end thereof];

positioning the delivery end of the fiber optic cable at the surgical site; and

irrigating the surgical site with a liquid medium.

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47. (Amended) A method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the step of providing a fiber optic cable includes providing [fiber optic cable is] a low-OH, silica optic fiber.

G/ 48. (Amended) A method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the step of providing a fiber optic cable includes providing a cable having its delivery end [of the fiber optic cable is] threaded through and supported by a fitting.

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REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's action of May 16, 1994, Applicant respectfully requests reexamination and reconsideration. Applicant has amended claims 44 and 47-48.

At page two of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected each of claims 44-59 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over certain claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,950,266 and 5,196,004. Enclosed herewith is